

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims that the Examiner objected to being dependent on a rejected base claim.

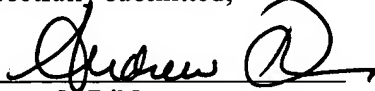
Applicants have canceled without prejudice claims 68-72.

In addition, Applicants have added as new dependent claims 81-86 claims directed to two embodiments of the bonding element. Applicants believe that these claims present no new issues of patentability.

In view of the above amendments, applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the allowance of the foregoing claims, Applicants invite the Examiner to participate in an interview to expedite resolution of those points.

Dated: June 1, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Andrew G. DiNovo

Registration No.: 40,115

JENKENS & GILCHRIST, A PROFESSIONAL
CORPORATION

1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 3200

Dallas, Texas 75202-2799

(512) 499-3812—telephone

(512) 499-3810—facsimile

Attorneys For Applicant